

# New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service  
United States Department of Agriculture

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## Ag Review April 2002

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A special "THANK YOU" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, telephone or personal interviews. This issue contains the results of monthly and quarterly surveys including Milk Production, Layer and Egg Production, Potato Stocks and Prices, and the March 2002 Agricultural Survey of Field Crop Acreage Intentions.

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*Potatoes: Stocks & Prices*

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**POTATO STOCKS:** Maine potato stocks on hand April 1, 2002, totaled 5.1 million hundredweight (cwt.), 23 percent below 2001's April 1 holdings. Disappearance to April 1 in Maine totaled 11.0 million cwt., compared with 11.3 million cwt. a year earlier. Storage accounted for 32 percent of Maine's total production, compared with the previous 5-year average of 38 percent. The price received for 2001 crop potatoes across all sales for fresh market, processing, and seed averaged \$8.30 per cwt. during February 2002, well above the previous year's \$5.90 per cwt., and the 5-year average of \$5.91 per cwt. Projected prices for March 2002 show value of sales continuing to improve.

The **15 major potato states** held 129 million cwt. of potatoes in storage April 1, 2002, down 16 percent from 2001, but less than one percent above two years ago. Potatoes in storage account for 33 percent of the fall storage states' production, unchanged from a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to April 1, at 265 million cwt., is down 13 percent from the 2000 crop, and 9 percent below two years ago. This is the lowest disappearance since 1993. March disappearance of 38.9 million cwt. is down 12 percent from a year ago, and 6 percent below 2000. Shrink and loss to this point in the season is 22.9 million cwt., down 31 percent from last year, and 17 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 2001 crop potatoes in the 15 states totaled 131 million cwt. to April 1, down 13 percent from the 2000 crop, and 11 percent below two years ago. In March, processors used 16.9 million cwt. of potatoes, 15 percent below a year ago, and 18 percent below two years ago.

### NEW ENGLAND FIELD CROP ACREAGE INTENTIONS

**FOR 2002:** New England intentions for March 1, 2002 indicated farmers plan to increase seedings of field corn in the region and slightly reduce acreage harvested for dry hay. The intentions survey conducted March 1 represents the acreage farmers intend to plant and/or harvest as of that date. New England farmers expect to plant 192,000 acres of **field corn** in 2002, an increase of 3,000 acres from the previous year's seedings. New England farm operators intend to harvest 588,000 acres of **dry hay** in 2002, compared with 596,000 acres harvested the previous year. **Oat** growers in Maine plan to seed 34,000 acres in 2002 and harvest 32,000 acres for grain. Maine's **barley** producers intend to plant 30,000 acres in 2002. Connecticut **broadleaf tobacco** for harvest in 2002 is forecast at 1,300 acres, unchanged from a year earlier. Grower intentions placed broadleaf acreage for harvest in Massachusetts at 950 acres, compared with 850 acres harvested in 2001. **Shade tobacco** acreage for harvest in Connecticut and Massachusetts in 2002 is expected to total 1,200 acres, eight percent below the previous year's harvested acreage.

### U.S. FIELD CROP ACREAGE INTENTIONS FOR 2002:

**Corn** growers across the country intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2002, up four percent from 2001, but down one percent from 2000. Expected acreage is up in many areas of the United States and in virtually all areas of the Corn Belt. **Soybean** producers intend to plant 73.0 million acres in 2002, down two percent from last year. Reduced soybean acreage was offset by an expected increase in corn plantings in most areas. Crop rotations, farm bill uncertainty, and price considerations were cited as primary reasons for the reduced soybean acreage. **Sorghum** plantings are expected to total 9.02 million acres, down 12 percent from last year. All **Wheat** planted area is expected to total 59.0 million acres in 2002. This is down one percent from 2001, and the lowest level since 1972. **Cotton** plantings for 2002 are expected to total 14.8 million acres, six percent below last year.

**MILK PRODUCTION:** Milk production in **Vermont** totaled 233 million pounds in March 2002, an increase of three percent from March 2001. There were an estimated 153,000 milk cows on Vermont farms during March 2002, a decrease of 1,000 milk cows from the previous month, however, an increase of 1,000 milk cows from March 2001. Milk production per cow for the month averaged 1,525 pounds, an increase of 35 pounds from March 2001.

Milk production during the first quarter (January - March) of 2002 totaled 1.14 billion pounds in **New England**, an increase of almost three percent from the same period last year. There were an estimated 255,400 milk cows on New England farms, a decrease of 1,000 milk cows from the fourth quarter of 2001 and the same period a year ago. Milk production per cow averaged 4,455 pounds for the first quarter of 2002, an increase of 142 pounds from the same period in 2001.

Milk production in the **United States** during the first quarter of this year totaled 42.3 billion pounds, an increase of two percent from the first quarter of 2001. There were 9.1 million milk cows in the U.S. during the first quarter of the year, a decrease of 0.4 percent from the same quarter last year. The U.S. average quarterly rate was 4,643 pounds per cow for the first quarter of 2002, an increase of 129 pounds from the same period in 2001.

**ANNUAL MILK PRODUCTION AND VALUE:** Milk production in **New England** during 2001 totaled 4.5 billion pounds, a decrease of one percent from the previous year. The annual average number of milk cows in 2001 was 256,400 head, a decrease of three percent from the previous year. Annual production per cow averaged 17,477 pounds, which set a record high milk rate per cow in New England. Cash receipts from all milk sales in 2001 totaled 709.5 million dollars, 13 percent lighter than sales in 2000. New England dairy producers received an average of \$15.96 per hundredweight for all milk sold in 2001, an increase of \$2.04 from the previous year's average price.

Milk Production in the **United States** decreased one percent in 2001 to 165 billion pounds. The annual average number of milk cows on the Nation's farms in 2001 was 9.12 million head, a decrease of 91,000 head from the previous year. The annual average rate per cow in 2001 was 18,139 pounds, a decrease of 62 pounds per cow from the previous year's rate. Cash receipts from all milk sales during 2001 was \$24.7 billion, an increase of 20 percent from the previous year's sales. The Nation's dairy farmers received an average return of \$15.05 per hundredweight, 21 percent above 2000's average.

**CHICKENS:** March 2002 inventories for Connecticut and Maine totaled 7.8 million **layers**, an increase of nine percent from their combined total in March 2001. Maine was the leading producer of eggs in New England within the six-state region, producing a total of 107 million eggs, and Connecticut produced 76 million eggs from all layers.

The total number of layers in the United States during March 2002 averaged 337 million, slightly higher than the average in March 2001. United States egg production totaled 7.41 billion during March 2002, up one percent from the previous year.

**VERMONT CATTLE COUNTY ESTIMATES:** Vermont's cattle and calf herd totaled 285,000 head on January 1, 2002, a decrease of 10,000 head from the 2001 inventory. Franklin County continued to have the largest cattle and calf inventory in Vermont with 62,700 head, followed by Addison County with 61,100 head and Orleans County with 41,600 head. There were an estimated 154,000 milk cows in Vermont on January 1, 2002, accounting for 54 percent of Vermont's cattle and calf inventory. Franklin County had an estimated 38,800 milk cows, followed by Addison County with 32,700 and Orleans County with 24,100.

*This is a monthly summary of New England agricultural statistics taken from nationwide reports issued by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.*

**All National reports and State newsletters are available on the Internet at:** <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. National Reports can be ordered by calling 1-800-999-6779.

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**FIELD CORN and DRY HAY  
2001 Acreage and 2002 Intentions**

STATE	Area Planted for All Purposes			Area Harvested		
	CORN			ALL DRY HAY		
	2001	2002 Intentions as of Mar 1	2002 as % of 2001	2001	2002 Intentions as of Mar 1	2002 as % of 2001
	1,000 Acres		Percent	1,000 Acres		Percent
Connecticut	32	30	94	63	65	103
Maine	28	28	100	130	120	92
Massachusetts	22	22	100	98	100	102
New Hampshire	15	15	100	57	55	96
Rhode Island	2	2	100	8	8	100
Vermont	90	95	106	240	240	100
NEW ENGLAND	189	192	102	596	588	99
U. S.	75,752	79,047	104	63,511	63,743	100

SOURCE: *Prospective Plantings*, 8:30 a.m., March 28, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**OATS and BARLEY  
2001 Acreage and 2002 Intentions**

STATE	Area Planted for All Purposes					
	OATS			BARLEY		
	2001	2002 Intentions as of Mar 1	2002 as % of 2001	2001	2002 Intentions as of Mar 1	2002 as % of 2001
	1,000 Acres		Percent	1,000 Acres		Percent
Maine	33	34	103	27	30	111
U. S.	4,403	5,129	116	4,967	5,078	102

SOURCE: *Prospective Plantings*, 8:30 a.m., March 28, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**TOBACCO  
2000 - 2001 Acreage Harvested and 2002 Intentions**

STATE and TYPE	Area Harvested			
	2000	2001	2002 <sup>1/</sup> Intentions as of Mar 1	2002 as % of 2001
	Acres			Percent
<b>Broadleaf (Type 51)</b>				
Connecticut	600	1,300	1,300	100
Massachusetts	300	850	950	112
CT & MA Total	900	2,150	2,250	105
<b>Shade (Type 61)</b>				
Connecticut	1,000	1,000	900	90
Massachusetts	250	300	300	100
CT & MA Total	1,250	1,300	1,200	92
U. S. (All Types)	472,430	432,640	429,410	99

<sup>1/</sup> Area intended for harvest in 2002 as indicated by reports from farmers.

SOURCE: *Prospective Plantings*, 8:30 am, March 28, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

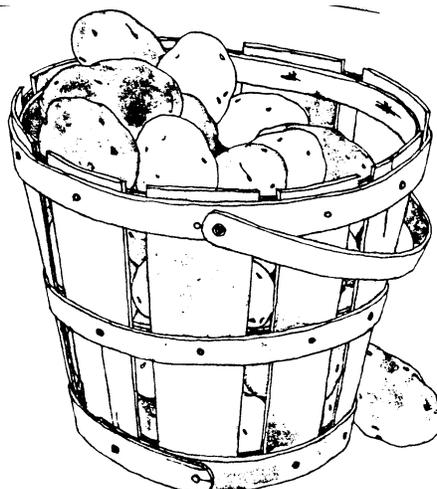
FALL POTATOES: Production and April 1 Stocks <sup>1/</sup>, 2001 - 2002

STATE	2000 Crop			2001 Crop		
	Production	Stocks April 1, 2001	Stocks as % of Prod	Production	Stocks April 1, 2002	Stocks as % of Prod
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
California	3,741	1,100	29	1,113	170	15
Colorado	27,972	10,300	37	21,357	7,300	34
Idaho	152,320	61,500	40	127,980	53,000	41
<b>Maine</b>	<b>17,920</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16,120</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>32</b>
Michigan	14,963	1,500	10	14,030	1,500	11
Minnesota	21,240	8,100	38	18,425	6,100	33
Montana	3,503	2,200	63	3,040	1,900	63
Nebraska <sup>2/</sup>	10,127	2/		8,512	2/	
New York	5,964	400	7	5,942	250	4
North Dakota	26,950	9,500	35	26,400	10,400	39
Ohio <sup>2/</sup>	1,134	2/		984	2/	
Oregon	30,683	13,600	44	20,730	8,500	41
Pennsylvania	3,510	300	9	3,173	260	8
Washington	105,000	29,500	28	94,400	25,000	26
Wisconsin	33,800	6,900	20	31,955	7,800	24
Other States		2,020			1,650	
15 STATES	458,827	153,520	33	394,161	128,930	33

<sup>1/</sup> Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant the 2002 crop; 2001 crop seed usage totaled 27.4 million cwt.

<sup>2/</sup> Combined into "Other States."

SOURCE: *Potato Stocks*, 3:00 p.m., April 15, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



## MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 1996 - 2001 Crop Years

CROP YEAR	Prices Received <sup>1/</sup> by Farmers for All Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average										
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	Market Year Average
	Dollars Per Cwt.										
1996	5.20	4.70	4.90	4.35	4.35	4.65	4.50	4.75	5.05	4.55	4.60
1997	8.10	5.65	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.10	6.35	6.55	6.95	6.75	6.40
1998	6.25	5.40	5.70	5.85	5.90	6.15	6.45	6.90	7.45	7.05	6.45
1999	5.80	5.30	5.45	6.35	6.45	6.30	6.35	6.40	6.80	6.60	6.35
2000	5.80	5.45	5.50	5.55	5.60	5.50	5.90	6.20	6.80	7.30	6.15
2001 <sup>2/</sup>	6.30	5.70	6.05	6.65	7.50	7.80	8.30	8.65			

<sup>1/</sup> Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed and feed.

<sup>2/</sup> Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.

SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., March 27, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## MONTHLY MILK: Average Price Received and Fat Test, March 2002 with Comparisons

STATE	Milk Price, Sold to Plants <sup>1/</sup>			Fat Test		
	March 2001	February 2002	March 2002 <sup>2/</sup>	March 2001	February 2002	March 2002 <sup>2/</sup>
	Dollars Per Cwt			Percent		
Vermont	14.90	13.70	13.60	3.74	3.75	3.74
New York	14.80	13.80	13.20	3.74	3.75	3.74
Pennsylvania	15.70	14.90	14.50	3.75	3.80	3.80
U.S. <sup>3/</sup>	13.90	13.10	12.70	3.72	3.76	3.73

<sup>1/</sup> Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

<sup>2/</sup> Most recent monthly price and butterfat test are preliminary mid-month forecasts.

<sup>3/</sup> U.S. includes only 20 major States: AZ CA FL ID IL IN IA KY MI MN MO NM NY OH PA TX VT VA WA WI.

SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., March 27, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, February 2002 with Comparisons

STATE	Milk Cows <sup>1/</sup>			Production per Cow			Production		
	Mar 2001	Feb 2002	Mar 2002	Mar 2001	Feb 2002	Mar 2002	Mar 2001	Feb 2002	Mar 2002
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	152	154	153	1,490	1,375	1,525	226	212	233
New York	670	676	678	1,490	1,400	1,550	998	946	1,051
Pennsylvania	600	583	581	1,580	1,460	1,630	948	851	947
U.S. <sup>2/</sup>	7,743	7,744	7,745	1,599	1,468	1,650	12,384	11,365	12,778

<sup>1/</sup> Average number for month, including dry cows.

<sup>2/</sup> U.S. includes 20 major States: AZ CA FL ID IL IN IA KY MI MN MO NM NY OH PA TX VT VA WA WI.

SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., April 17, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## QUARTERLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, January - March 2002 with Comparisons

STATE	Milk Cows <sup>1/</sup>			Production per Cow			Production		
	Jan-Mar 2001	Oct - Dec 2001	Jan-Mar 2002	Jan-Mar 2001	Oct - Dec 2001	Jan-Mar 2002	Jan-Mar 2001	Oct - Dec 2001	Jan-Mar 2002
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Connecticut	26	24	24	4,630	4,570	4,820	120	110	116
Maine	37	38	38	4,290	4,270	4,310	159	162	164
Massachusetts	21	21	20	4,260	4,210	4,480	89	88	90
New Hampshire	18	18	18	4,420	4,420	4,640	80	80	84
Rhode Island	1.4	1.4	1.4	4,180	3,950	4,170	5.9	5.5	5.8
Vermont	153	154	154	4,261	4,331	4,403	652	667	678
NEW ENGLAND	256.4	256.4	255.4	4,313	4,339	4,455	1,105.9	1,112.5	1,137.8
U.S.	9,143	9,105	9,105	4,514	4,483	4,643	41,267	40,818	42,271

<sup>1/</sup> Average number for quarter including dry cows.

SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., April 17, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## ANNUAL MILK: Production and Value, 2001

STATE	Average Number of Milk Cows	Production of Milk and Milkfat					Value of Milk Produced <sup>1/</sup>
		Per Milk Cow		Percentage of Fat in All Milk Produced	Total		
		Milk	Milkfat		Milk	Milkfat	
	1,000 Head	Pounds		Percent	Million Pounds		1,000 Dollars
Connecticut	25	18,240	671	2/	456	16.8	73,872
Maine	38	17,211	633	2/	654	24.1	106,602
Massachusetts	21	17,048	627	2/	358	13.2	57,996
New Hampshire	18	17,944	660	2/	323	11.9	51,680
Rhode Island	1.4	16,571	610	2/	23.2	0.9	3,805
Vermont	153	17,431	641	2/	2,667	98.1	421,386
NEW ENGLAND	256.4	17,477	644	2/	4,481.2	165.0	715,341
U.S.	9,115	18,139	666	3.67	165,336	6,072.3	24,886,929

<sup>1/</sup> Valued at averaged returns per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream. Value equals cash receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption plus value of milk fed to calves.

<sup>2/</sup> Northeast Marketing Area average butter fat used to compute milkfat pounds per cow.

SOURCE: *Milk Production, Disposition, and Income*, 3:00 p.m., April 25, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## ANNUAL MILK: Milk and Cream Marketings, Price and Income, 2001

STATE	Milk Utilized <sup>1/</sup>	Percent Fluid Grade <sup>2/</sup>	Average Returns <sup>3/</sup>		Cash Receipts from Marketings
			Per Cwt Milk	Per Lb Milkfat	
	Million Pounds	Percent	Dollars		1,000 Dollars
Connecticut	452	100	16.20	4.40	73,224
Maine	649	100	16.30	4.43	105,787
Massachusetts	354	100	16.20	4.40	57,348
New Hampshire	320	100	16.00	4.35	51,200
Rhode Island	22.8	100	16.40	4.46	3,739
Vermont	2,647	100	15.80	4.29	418,226
NEW ENGLAND	4,444.8	100	15.96	4.34	709,524
U.S.	164,072	98	15.05	4.10	24,694,531

<sup>1/</sup> Milk sold to plants and dealers as whole milk and equivalent amounts of milk for cream. Includes milk produced by dealers' own herds and small amounts sold directly to consumers. Also includes milk produced by institutional herds.

<sup>2/</sup> Percentage of milk sold that is eligible for fluid use (grade A for fluid use in most states). Includes fluid-grade milk used in manufacturing dairy products.

<sup>3/</sup> Cash receipts divided by milk or milkfat in combined marketings.

SOURCE: *Milk Production, Disposition, and Income*, 3:00 p.m., April 25, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## ANNUAL MILK: Milk Used Where Produced and Gross Producer Income, 2001

STATE	Milk Used Where Produced				Gross Producer Income <sup>3/</sup>
	Total	Fed to Calves <sup>1/</sup>	Used for Milk, Cream & Butter (Home Consumption)		
			Milk Utilized	Value <sup>2/</sup>	
	Million Pounds			1,000 Dollars	
Connecticut	4.0	3.5	0.5	81	73,305
Maine	5.0	4.5	0.5	82	105,869
Massachusetts	4.0	3.5	0.5	81	57,429
New Hampshire	3.0	2.7	0.3	48	51,248
Rhode Island	0.4	0.4	--	--	3,739
Vermont	20.0	19.0	1.0	158	418,384
NEW ENGLAND	36.4	33.6	2.8	450	709,974
U.S.	1,264	1,084	180	27,449	24,721,980

<sup>1/</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

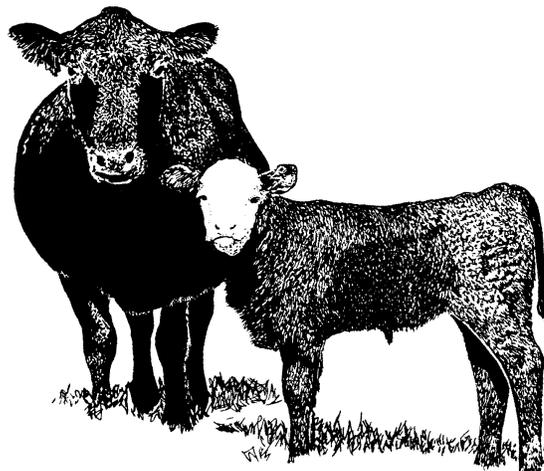
<sup>2/</sup> Valued at averaged returns per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream.

<sup>3/</sup> Cash receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption.

SOURCE: *Milk Production, Disposition, and Income*, 3:00 p.m., April 25, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**VERMONT**  
**All Cattle and Calves & Milk Cows**  
**January 1, 2001 - 2002, By County**

COUNTY	All Cattle and Calves		Milk Cows	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Head			
Addison	63,300	61,100	32,900	32,700
Bennington	4,100	4,300	1,800	1,900
Caledonia	16,700	16,300	8,500	8,500
Chittenden	14,700	14,000	6,900	6,900
Essex	4,800	4,600	2,200	2,200
Franklin	65,500	62,700	39,000	38,800
Grand Isle	6,200	5,800	3,400	3,300
Lamoille	9,600	9,300	5,300	5,300
Orange	17,900	17,400	8,900	8,800
Orleans	42,900	41,600	24,500	24,100
Rutland	19,100	18,500	9,000	8,900
Washington	9,900	9,600	4,600	4,600
Windham	8,200	8,000	3,800	3,700
Windsor	12,100	11,800	4,200	4,300
STATE TOTAL	295,000	285,000	155,000	154,000



**MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, March, 2001 - 2002**

STATE	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers <sup>1/</sup>		Eggs per 100 for All Layers <sup>1/</sup>		Egg Production from All Layers <sup>1/</sup>	
	March 2001	March 2002	March 2001	March 2002	March 2001	March 2002	March 2001	March 2002
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	3,132	3,045	3,219	3,100	2,454	2,445	79	76
Maine	3,880	4,632	3,941	4,686	2,124	2,279	84	107
U.S.	271,368	271,360	336,820	337,338	2,178	2,197	7,336	7,412

<sup>1/</sup> Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

SOURCE: *Chickens & Eggs*, 3:00 p.m., April 23, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, February 2002 with Comparisons**

PRODUCT	February 2001	January 2002	February 2002	February 2002 as percent of:	
				February 2001	January 2002
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	5,398	4,120	3,926	73	95
American Type Cheese <sup>1/</sup>	5,118	6,413	5,141	100	80
Mozzarella Cheese	5,035	5,434	5,490	109	101
Other Italian Cheese <sup>2/</sup>	788	1,426	1,128	143	79
Cottage Cheese <sup>3/</sup>	542	531	466	86	88
	1,000 Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	7,338	10,414	7,773	106	75
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	770	1,014	425	55	42
Milk Sherbet, Hard	268	268	204	76	76

<sup>1/</sup> American Type Cheese includes cheddars, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey and Jack.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.

<sup>3/</sup> Creamed and lowfat.

SOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, 3:00 p.m., April 5, 2002, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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